GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5629
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
FILARIA ERADICATION PROGRAMMES
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes formulated by the Government for the eradication of Filaria;

(b) the percentage of success achieved there under so far;

(c) whether the Government provide full treatment, assistance and medicines to the filaria patients;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) A National Filaria Control Programme (NFCP) is being implemented in the country since 1955. Although, operations under the Programme have been limited to urban areas, it has been extended to rural areas also since 1994 for management of cases through Primary Health Centres. In urban areas 206 Filaria Control Units, 199 Filaria Clinics and 27 Survey Units have been in operatior covering a population of 47.93 million. The measures for controlling Filariasis include:

Recurrent anti-larval measures, using larvicides in the mosquito breeding places; Anti-parasitic measures by detection of micro-filaria carrier and treatment with Di-ethyl Carbamazine(DEC);IEC activities for public awareness;Management of acute and chronic Filariasis through referral services; Biological control of mosquito breeding through biological agents especially larvivorous fishes.

Further, NFCP has initiated a project in 1997 with single dose annual mass drug therapy in 13 identified districts of seven states namely Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Reduction by 42% in Microfilaria rate and by 17.7% in disease rate has been recorded in Urban Areas during 1998 as compared to 1991.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Filaria patients are given full treatment of 12 days DEC therapy.

(e) Does not arise.